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Sent: Wednesday, October 31, 2007 1:06 PM

To: [REDACTED]

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Subject: Royal Charm

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INSIDE ICE Newsletter: Volume 2, Issue 18: Agents Arrest 59 ... WASHINGTON, D.C. — **FBI**, ICE and other federal agents have arrested 59 ... To date, **Operation Royal Charm** has resulted in the seizure of more than \$3.3 ...

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American Chronicle: Feds, Local Cops Arrest 59 Smugglers in ... The **FBI** undercover **operation** revealed that the organization smuggled highly ... To date, **Operation Royal Charm** has resulted in the seizure of more than \$3.3 ...

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Asia Times Online :: Korea News - North Korea's burden of cr... .. (**FBI**) **operations** code-named "Smoking Dragon" and "**Royal Charm**", ... Los Angeles, Lag Vegas, Chicago and Philadelphia and the **FBI** and related law ...

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United States, Canada Dismantle Smuggling Organization - US ... Operations Royal Charm and Smoking Dragon were the result of a long-term ... the **operations** to dismantle the criminal organization, agents from the **FBI** had ...

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CNN.com - Macau focus of push on NK activity - May 18, 2006 It is in Atlantic City that a joint **FBI** and secret service investigation called **Royal Charm** reached its climax. Chinese gangsters **operating** in America but ...

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87 arrested in counterfeit ring sting - Crime & Punishment - ... 23: The **FBI**'s Robert Laughlin talks to MSNBC-TV's Alison Stewart about a smuggling bust where federal ... **Operation Royal Charm** was named for the yacht. ...

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The Money Trail That Linked North Korea to Macao - New York ... The results of these investigations, code-named **Royal Charm** and Smoking investigators from agencies including the **F.B.I.** and the Secret Service had ...

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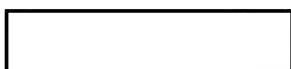
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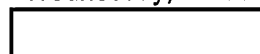
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NPR : Slate's Explainer: Counterfeit U.S. '**Super Notes** A massive, multi-state FBI sting last weekend netted millions of dollars worth in drugs, counterfeit cigarettes and high-quality, fake \$100 bills.

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Angry Bear For years, analysts have wondered why the **supernotes** — which are detectable only with sophisticated, expensive technology — appear to have been produced in ...

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North Korean Economy Watch » Blog Archive » DPRK **super notes**... Counterfeits of this superior sort — known as **supernotes** — had been detected by law-enforcement officials before, elsewhere in the world, but the Newark ...

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How a U.S. inquiry held up the North Korea peace talks ... The **operation** took its name from the boat, **Royal Charm**. ... said in an interview that investigators from agencies including the FBI and the Secret Service ...

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No Ordinary Counterfeit - New York Times There, F.B.I. and Secret Service agents, acting as part of a sting **operation**, ... in a series of **operations** code-named **Royal Charm** and Smoking Dragon. ...

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of Investigation (FBI) posed as ... of the United States called **Operations Royal Charm** and Smoking Dragon. ...

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Captain's Quarters North Korea has a grand-scale counterfeiting **operation** that may have put tens of ... to North Korea got stung by the **FBI** in an **operation** called **Royal Charm**. ...

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The Hindu : International / Globescan : Wedding sting busts ... **Operation Royal Charm** — named after the yacht — led to the arrest of 87 persons in raids across Canada and the U.S. Authorities said they had seized \$4.4 ...

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Counterfeiting Cases Point to North Korea - Los Angeles Time... In the two other cases, dubbed **Operation Smoking Dragon** and **Operation Royal Charm**, at least 87 people have been arrested or indicted in New Jersey and ...

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Attachments: Royal Charm



Royal Charm

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Subject: Fwd: Philadelphia Inquirer and Philadelphia Daily News Document

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Most recent press release on ROYAL CHARM, also please note that we received the FBI Director's Award for Excellence in Investigation on 9/25/2007 .

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Subject: Royal Charm

'Wedding' snares 10 smuggling suspects

They thought they were going to a yacht off Cape May. The **FBI** moved in as part of a worldwide probe.

FBI nabs 10 'guests' for fake wedding

By **Troy Graham INQUIRER STAFF WRITER**

Source: **Philadelphia Inquirer, The (PA)**; 780 words

Published: **2005-08-23**

Section: **LOCAL** | Page **A01** | Edition: **JERSEY**

The **FBI** capped off a six-year international smuggling investigation by faking a wedding last weekend for two undercover agents and inviting suspects from all over the world to attend.

Ten of the "guests" were given limousine rides Sunday from their Atlantic City hotels purportedly to a wedding aboard a yacht off Cape May. The limos took a detour behind the **FBI** building in Northfield, N.J., where agents surrounded the cars and arrested the suspects.

"It was brilliant," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephen J. Taylor, who is chief of the terrorism unit for New Jersey. "I wish I could say I came up with the idea. It was a female undercover **FBI** agent who came up with it."

The arrests were part of a huge roundup that netted 59 of the 87 people indicted in federal courts in New Jersey and California on charges of smuggling cigarettes, drugs, guns and counterfeit U.S. currency. Fifty-seven people were charged in six indictments in New Jersey. That case will be prosecuted in federal court in Camden. Eleven of those 57 people - including four of the wedding guests, still wearing formal attire - appeared for bond hearings in Camden yesterday.

Most were of Chinese or Taiwanese decent, but there also was a dual Italian Canadian citizen and a Philadelphia man born in Israel. About half of the defendants are suspected of being in the country illegally, Taylor said.

U.S. Magistrate Joel B. Rosen said he would wait until all the defendants were assembled in Camden to hold an arraignment - probably not until mid-September.

The investigation began in November 1999, when **FBI** agents from the Atlantic City office went undercover and posed as members of the Mafia to meet with Chang Shan Liu and his wife, May, both of Gaithersburg, Md.

The Lius served as brokers for two Chinese citizens named as the ringleaders in the cigarette-smuggling operation, Taylor said. The ring had been importing cigarettes through Long Beach, Calif., but was looking for a new port of entry after several seizures there.

PREPUB-5069

11/27/2007

The undercover agents told the Lius they had contacts at Port Newark who could get shipments through customs. From December 2001 until last week, 21 shipments - containing 200 million counterfeit cigarettes - came through Newark with the help of the undercover agents.

Cigarettes made in China

The cigarettes were manufactured in several factories in mainland China to look like Newport and Marlboro brands. Customs officials in China were bribed to allow the shipments to leave, Taylor said.

Because the cigarettes were not taxed, they were sold throughout the country at prices as low as about half the price of legal cigarettes. The undercover agents handled delivery of the cigarettes to places and people specified by the Lius.

Most of the cigarettes were distributed in New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia, but some went as far as Chicago and even Canada. The **FBI** had the cigarettes tested to make sure they were no more toxic than other cigarettes before allowing them to be distributed.

Chang Shan Liu also was charged with importing counterfeit Viagra through Newark.

The investigation eventually branched into several other areas. A distributor in Chicago, for instance, asked to pay the undercover agents for the cigarettes in ecstasy pills instead of cash. He later introduced the agents to a Canadian man who sold the agents more than 12,000 ecstasy pills.

The undercover agents also began handling cigarette shipments for another man, Khanh "Keith" Tang, Taylor said. The agents asked Tang whether he had any connections for drugs, guns and counterfeit money.

Counterfeit currency

Tang took the agents to meet Jyimin "Jimmy" Horng in Phuket, Thailand. Horng eventually arranged to ship to Newark a total of \$3.3 million in counterfeit currency - known as "super notes" because of the high quality of the bills. Super notes often are manufactured in North Korea.

Horng also sent 390 grams of crystal meth into the country and arranged a shipment of weapons. The agents selected the arms from a catalog they were provided. The \$1 million shipment, which included rockets, silenced submachine guns and antitank missiles, would have arrived last month. The smugglers put off the arrival for a couple months because of the heightened security after the London terrorist bombings, Taylor said.

During the trip to Thailand the undercover agents brought along their "girlfriends," who were agents providing extra backup.

The "wedding" for one of the couples was announced about seven months ago.

"Invitations were sent out, a date was given and RSVPs were received from different points around the world," said U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie.

The wedding was set for the fictitious yacht **Royal Charm**, which was actually the **FBI's** operational name for the investigation.

Contact staff writer Troy Graham at 856-779-3893 or tgraham@phillynews.com.

This article contains information from the Associated Press.
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Sent: Tuesday, September 04, 2007 6:35 PM

To: [REDACTED]

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Subject: Philadelphia Inquirer and Philadelphia Daily News Document

Philadelphia Inquirer

Philadelphia Inquirer, The (PA)

August 1, 2007

Smuggler in global ring gets 11 years

The U.S. called Chang Shan Liu a leader in the Newark operation. He said he had done the bidding of others.

Author: Troy Graham INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Edition: JERSEY

Section: SOUTH JERSEY AND THE REGION

Page: B01

Estimated printed pages: 3

Article Text:

Chang Shan Liu was either a leader in an international smuggling ring, or a minor player swept up in a sprawling federal investigation.

Either way, he helped FBI agents whom he thought were members of the New Jersey Mafia import about 100 million counterfeit cigarettes from China through Port Newark.

The investigation, which started with a 1999 meeting between Liu and the undercover agents, lasted six years as the agents followed a global trail of crime that eventually included drugs, counterfeit U.S. currency, and heavy-arms dealing.

At his sentencing yesterday in U.S. District Court in Camden, Liu said he merely had followed the instructions of the agents and his contact in China.

"I am not a mastermind or an organizer at all," Liu said. "I truly regret what I did. I was foolish enough to say yes to the undercover agents."

Liu's attorney, Martin Schmukler, argued that his client should be allowed probation and house arrest so he could care for his wife, May, who suffered a debilitating stroke in 2004.

Instead, Judge Jerome B. Simandle gave Liu, 69, more than 11 years in prison.

Prosecutors said Liu and his wife had served as brokers for two Chinese citizens who led a smuggling operation.

The ring had been importing fake Marlboro and Newport cigarettes made in China through Long Beach, Calif. In the late-1990s, after several seizures there, the ring was looking for a new port.

The undercover agents told the Lius that they had contacts at Port Newark who could get shipments through customs. From December 2001 to August 2005, the Lius arranged for 13 shipments - about 100 million cigarettes - to arrive at Port Newark.

Agents delivered the cigarettes to places and people specified by the Lius, prosecutors said. Because they were not taxed, the cigarettes were sold at prices as low as half the price of legal cigarettes.

Most were distributed in New York, New Jersey and Philadelphia, but others went as far as Chicago and Canada. Agents had the counterfeit cigarettes tested to make sure they were no more toxic than legal cigarettes before delivering them.

The investigation began to branch out. In Chicago, for instance, a cigarette distributor offered to pay the agents in ecstasy pills instead of cash. He then introduced them to a Canadian man who sold the agents 12,000 doses of ecstasy.

The agents also began importing cigarettes for another man, Khanh "Keith" Tang. They later asked him whether he had any connections for drugs, guns and counterfeit money.

Tang took the agents to meet Jyimin "Jimmy" Horng in Phuket, Thailand. Horng eventually arranged to ship to Newark \$3.3 million in counterfeit currency known as "super notes" because of the high quality of the bills. Super notes often are made in North Korea.

Horng also sent 390 grams of crystal methamphetamine into the country and arranged a shipment of weapons. The agents selected the arms from a catalog they were provided. The \$1 million shipment included rockets, silenced submachine guns, and antitank missiles, but the weapons were not sent before the arrests were made.

Nearly 90 defendants were indicted in federal courts in Camden and California in 2005. Fifty-seven were charged in New Jersey, and about 45 of them have been convicted, Assistant U.S. Attorney Hallie Mitchell said.

Chang Shan Liu pleaded guilty in December to one count of racketeering conspiracy. Charges against his wife have been dismissed, largely because of her health.

"Mr. Liu was the one who had a foot in China and a foot in the U.S.," Simandle said. "That was unique among all these defendants."

Liu's alleged contact in China, Ching Ming Hsu, remains a fugitive. Horng, who pleaded guilty, is awaiting sentencing in Camden.

Eleven of the New Jersey defendants, including Chang Shan Liu, were arrested after they were invited to Atlantic City to attend a fictitious wedding between two of the undercover agents.

Agents sent limos to chauffeur the guests from their hotel to the wedding, supposedly to be held aboard

a yacht. Instead, the limos drove to the FBI building in Northfield, where the suspects were arrested.

Schmukler said the staged wedding was not "the high-water mark in the administration of justice," and likened it to a perp walk for news cameras.

"This was not a publicity stunt," Mitchell responded. "It was a lure to bring in all these criminals from all over the country and the world."

Contact staff writer Troy Graham at 856-779-3893 or tgraham@phillynews.com.

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Part Two
Building the Case